GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
FINANCE
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:2519
ANSWERED ON:10.03.2000
DEVELOPMENT OF SOCIAL AND INFRASTRUCTURE SECTORS
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Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government are considering for the development of much neglected social and infrastructure sectors;

(b) If so, the steps which have been taken into consideration to develop the same; and

(c) If not, the reasons therefor?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE
(SHRI BALASAHEB VIKHE PATIL)

(a) to (c): The 2000-2001 Budget presented in the Parliament outlined the strategy for a sustained, equitable and job creating growth path of 7 to 8 per cent per year in order to banish the scourge of poverty from India within a decade and has, accorded highest priority to strengthening the rural economy and, to human economic development to achieve this objective. A new scheme `Janashree Bima Yojana` in order to extend social security cover to poorer sections of the society has been introduced. There is a new initiative in elementary education which will be called `Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan for universalisation of elementary education. The `National Literacy Mission` (NLM) will be revamped to raise literacy rate to 75 per cent by 2005.Spending on social sector has been rapidly stepped up during the past few years as shown in Table I. The Central Plan allocations for social sectors and poverty alleviation programmes have increased from Rs.9374 crore in 1993-94 (BE) to Rs.20,643 crore in 1999-2000 (RE) and further to Rs.23,286 crore in 2000-2001 (BE). Besides, a sum of Rs.5000 crore as central assistance to States/UTs has been provided for Pradhan Mantri Gramodaya Yojana in 2000-2001 (BE) for basic needs - Primary Education, Health Care, drinking water, housing & rural roads.Government has opened almost all infrastructure sectors for private participation including foreign investment. Government has also extended tax holiday to most of infrastructure sectors.

Table 1
Central Plan Outlay for Major Schemes of Social Sectors and Rural Development

(Rs crore)

Ministry/Department/Scheme	1998-99 (RE)	1999-2000 (RE)	2000-2001 (BE)
1. EDUCATION (Elementary Edu. & Lit. & Sec. and Higher Education)	4045	4385	5449
2. HEALTH INCLUDING I. S. M. & H.	981	1062	1378
3. FAMILY WELFARE	2253	3120	3520
4. WOMEN AND CHILD DEVELOPMENT	1134	1250	1460
5. WELFARE (Social Justice & Empowerment)	1147	1159	1350
6. RURAL DEVELOPMENT, RURAL EMPLOYMENT AND POVERTY ALLEVIATION #	9345	9351	9760

7 OTHER PROGRAMMES viz.,					
a) Prime Minister`s Rozgar Yojana (PMRY)	136		190		201
b) Swarna Jayanti Shahari Rojgar Yojna (SJSRY)	162		126		168
Total Central Plan outlay on Major Schemes on Social Sectors (1 to 7)	19203.00		20643.00		23286.00

From 1999-2000, it includes allocation for three departments viz. Rural Development, Land Resources and Drinking Water Supply
@ Is a rationalised version of the erstwhile schemes of Urban Basic Services, NRY and PM`s Integrated Urban Poverty Eradicatior Programme.